FORT CUSTER, Dec. 20 .- Sagebrush Bill and thad charge of a hunting party of three Britshers out after bears. We had been in camp on the Rosebud and Little Big Horn divide nearly a week, and had shown the Englishmen royal sport, commencing with a grizzly the first night after striking camp in a little mountain park. The custom of the camp was for Sagebrush and I to take turns, day about, staying at home to look after the camp and the dogs and the horses, and to do the cooking, while the other went out into the mountains with the Englishmen after bears. On the day I am now telling you about, it was my day to go out and Eagebrush's turn to stay in camp.

We had just reached the ridge of a hog back.

looking into the mouth of a good-sized cupboard caffon, when one of the Englishmen made out through his field glass what he thought were a couple of bears among the rocks about a mile away.

We crept cautiously up the caffon, keeping a jutting point of rock between us and the bears. The spur brought us to within half a mile of The spur brought us to within half a mile of the spot where we spiected to find them still busy hunting for grubs, when we peeped around and found that the bears had been frightened at something beyond them, and were making tracks down our way. Instead of two there were four. It was a regular family—Old Eph, his squaw, and a pair of cubs. The cubs looked about six months old, and the old bears were cuffing and hustling them along as they usually do with their cubs when alarmed. For a minute or two it looked as if they were coming right straight to us, and we stood waiting. Winchesters at full cock, to make things as lively as possible when they should come up. When about two hundred yards away, however, the cld bears stooped hustling the cubs, and, raising up on their hind legs, stood looking up the cahon. Away off up the cahon we could see a bunch of deer clambering



up the rocky bank. This was the noise that had alarmed the bears, and, as they would most likely return to their grubbing place as soon as they became satisfied that it was only deer, we decided to fire.

Two of the Englishmen let drive at an old

Two of the Englishmen let drive at an old bear apleee; the other one and I took the cubs. One of the cubs toppled over, caved around some, and finally rolled down the bank into the creek, dead as a mackerel; but the other three went scampering off up the cafion as lively as if we had been loaded with blank cartridges. We sent another volley after them in short order, but it didn't seem to have any more effect on them than the other, so we gave chase. For a while the way was reasonably smooth for a cafion, and as we heeled it after them we could see by the blood that two of the three had been hit.

could see by the blood that two of the three had been hit.

Pretty soon the canon narrowed to a rocky gorge with the rough banks sloping down pretty steep into the water. The water was shallow, and the bears had waded over to the other side, and were trying to give us the slip by clambering upamong the precipitous rocks. The she bear and the cub were already out of sight, but Old Eph had halted about three hundred yards away to lick himself where the bullet from our first firs had ploughed through his carcase. He was squatting on a narrow ledge and was evidently pretty badly hit, seeing that he di n't scare at seeing us running up. He made a fairlish shot from where we stood, and one of the Englishmen took deliberate aim at him and fired. The bullet plunked square into his stomach, and the bear plunged around with such blind fury that he ended by toppling off the ledge and taking a sliding tumble of about thirty feet.

the ledge and taking a sliding tumble of about thirty feet.

A clump of mountain alders brought him to a standstill for a minute, and as he didn't seem any the worse for his tumble, and looked likely to bolt, we blazed away at him all together.

This volley simply appeared to wake him up to a sense of his danger. Instead of dropping dead he pulled himself together and souttled nimbly across the loose trail of a rock slide and disappeared in a pocket overgrown with baby juniper, followed by another volley.

The pocket was merely a little horseshoe in the side of the steep rocky bank, and evidently had no other outlet than the one in front. The bear had gone in there to lay down and lick his wounds, which were getting pretty numerous. Crossing the creek we clambered up, to the

had no other outlet than the one in front. The bear had gone in there to lay down and lick his wounds, which were getting pretty numerous. Crossing the creek we clambered up to the clump of aiders, and followed his trail along toward the mouth of the pocket. We were standing about twenty pares from the little juniper thicket, peering in to see if we could make out his location, when, with a husky "whoop," he came charging headlong out.

Bangl bang! went two Winchesters, and over and over tumbled Old Eph, biting, snarling, and roaring, mad with rage and badly wounded, but still a long way from being conquered. The third Englishman now took steady aim and fired, but still the bear tumbled and bit and roared. Three more good shots were fired at less than twenty yards, and then Old Eph actually steadied himself for a charge, but, changing his mind, he turned tail and hustled back into the cover of the thicket.

"Well, I'll be blanked!" said one of the Englishmen, who had been an officer in India; and he went on to say that he had killed tigers and alligators and all sorts of varmint, but had never seen anything like this. As for me, I was mignty tickled over it, because it seemed to prove beyond a doubt my idea of a brown bear's superior tenacity of life, a matter that we had discussed in the morning.

We fired a shot or two into the thicket to coax the bear to charge us again, but it wouldn't work. I then climbed around over the rocks to the right and reached a point overlooking the pocket, to see if I could make him out. The back part of the pocket was almost bare of brush, and right back there, twenty feet below where I stood, sat Old Eph licking the blood as it cozed from a big ragged wound in his stomach. He looked like a mighty sick bear, and was smeared with blood pretty much ail over.

I should finish him off or what to do. They told me to hurl rocks at him and oust him from the pocket. I guessed he was too badly hurt to pay any attention to rocks; but he turned out to be a good deal perter than he looked.

capacity for bullets, we voted that it would be sheer suicide to do it.

What was to be done? The chances were that he would stay where he was and bleed to death anyhow, but we naturally wanted to finish him up in style. I argued that we ought to burn him out. After trying for over an hour to coax him out, the others told me to go ahead. In the back part of the pocket was a lot of dried grass and dead brush. This I calculated to set fire to by throwing a whish of burning grass down from where I stood when I threw the rocks. The fire in the rear of the pocket, I reckoned, would drive Old Eph out to the front and give the Britishers another chance to bow him over. Taking a bunch of dry grass. I claimbered up again, and proceeded to set it on fire, but, while stooping down out of the wind on the narrow foothold to light a match, the piece of rock I was standing on gave way, and down I went, into the bocket! I have been in several mighty tight places in my time, but I don't mind owning up to feeling badiy scared when I picked myself up and realized my position. True, I had a Colt's havy and a Bowie, but from late experiences with Old Eph it looked as if I might just as well have been armed with a pea shooter. Every moment I expected to hear his coarse "whoo!" and to see him come dashing savagely out of the brush, now almost within arm's reach.

Fortunately, I had plenty of matches in my pocket, and in a lifty! had set fire to the grass and got behind the flames.

The fire worked well, and in a couple of minites went blazing and cracking into the thicket. A notice that sounded considerably like the whinnying of a badly seared cub attracted my attention, and then I heard the crack of the Winchesters, and shortly after a second volley. It was a good hour before the brush had burnt down so that I was able to escape from the pocket. I then learned that the whinnying, noise I heard was no fancy, but the actual cry of a cub.

When the fire got to poing, and when I heard the withing and the political parts.

the biggest kind of a surprise, for we supposed the she bear and the cub were miles away.

Old Eph charged out upon the Englishmen, and, as they emptied their Winchesters into him, the squaw and the cub scuttled sharply round to the right, and went helter-skelter down the bank and out of sight. The volley knocked the old bear over, but he rallied again and made another attempt to charge. It was his last rally; the odds were too much for him, and the second volley I had heard laid him out. His was the worst riddled carcass of a bear I had ever seen. We sat down and counted up the number of shorts that had been pumped into him, and we found it to be no less than twenty-six. He was shot through and through the stomach and the neck; about the only vital spot that had escaped free was the brain. One bullet had gone down his throat, and another had bored a hole through his heart, which was the shot that probably finished him.

REALLY TIGHT LACING.

But Few Women Practise It, but They are the Most Intelligent and Influential.

Prom the Saturday Review.

An adventurous lady—we say adventurous, because we do not see her name among the qualified medical sisterhood—lectured not long ago on the ill effects and discomfort of tight lacing, and was reported to have specially emphasized the ease and comfort which resulted from its abandonment. To this homely argument a contemporary—somewhat hastily, we think—replied that it was not for lovely woman to consider her ease, but, at some inconvenience, to convort herself into a thing of beauty, and become, at any rate, a thing of joy, if not a joy forever. Now, this is a very dangerous concession to make, if, indeed it was made in all seriousness, as it is just the argument which tight lacers—if there is a single woman in the wide world who owns that she herself is one of them—advance in defence of the custom of, let us say, wearing corsets, and is the point in dispute between the incers and non-incers.

At the outset we are compelled to admit that a waist—that is to say, some kind of construction of the dross—is an aschele necessity of provention in the clothed human flavre, and From the Saturday Review.

a waist—that is to say, some kind of construc-tion of the dress—is an aesthetic necessity of proportion in the clothed human figure, and especially of the female figure draped in long. flowing skirts, Zoising, a distinguished Ger-man writer, has discovered a law of pro-portion which explains the sense of harmony we experience when we look on beautiful natural objects, and this law, when applied to the human body, explains why some per-sons are pleasing and others displeasing to our sense of the beautiful, or, what is the same thing, to our sense of proportion. Shortly stated, Zelsing's law of proportion runs thus: In objects divided into two un-equal parts, to appear proportional, the shorter sons are pleasing and there's displacement of our sense of the beautiful, or, what is the same thing, to our sense of proportion runs thus: In objects divided into two unequal parts, to appear proportional, the shorter part (in the human figure the head and bust) must bear the same relation to the longer part i.e., from the walst to the feet) which the longer part bears to the whole object (i.e., in man the lower section to the total stature). These proportions apply to every portion of the body as well as to the stature, and when reduced to figures have about the relation of 3 to 2. Thus, in the human figure the walst in a person of say live feet high should be three feet from the ground and two feet from the top of the head. These typical proportions are, however, only met with in tall women: hence the superior attractions of the fance figures of English and American women of Teutonic, or rather of Scandinavian origin, over those of the shortor Celite types of France. Spain, and Italy, the countries from which we received the fashion of wearing corsets, tiranting, then, for the sake of argument, that a waist of some kind is necessary to the human form, how does it happen that tight lacing is so often carried to excess? It is obviously not from a conscious desire to conform to Zeising's law of proportion, for it is hidden away in a learned mathematical treatise, little known even in the land of its birth.

Moreover, tight lacing is many centuries old, for Harvey, in discussing the displacement of the abdominal organs to the College of Physicians, nearly 300 years ago, declared that malposition of organs cecurred in "younng girls by lacing," and he gives the advice, which is loss frequently acted on now than formerly, to "cut there laces," because there is less need for it now than then, in spite of the rumor that failhon is imposing 13-inch waists at the present moment. Tight lacing is, no doubt, largely due to female rivalry; but this rivalry has an object beyond the simple desire of women to make themselves

mischief which tight incing inflicts on so many individuals of our race. If men, as a whole, cared for small waists for their own sake, we should long ago have had developed a small-waisted race of women (and men, too, for it would have been transmitted to both sexes) by selection, which ought to have rendered tight incing unnecessary in these latter days; but neither by this kind of saxual selection nor by the repetition of the habit of tight lacing through numerous generations has there been the slightest apparent change in the natural shape of the body, either in the circumference of the waist or in the position of the in-

been the slightest apparent change in the natural shape of the body, either in the circumference of the waist or in the position of the internal organs. Everychild which is born of a tight-lacing European race appears to be identical in physical conformation with the children born of women of other races who have never known corsets, while the healthy women of our own day who have not been individually subject to tight lacing do not differ in form and physical proportions from the models of the ancient Greek sculptors.

Thus it would seem that tight lacing is in part prompted by our natural sense of proportion in the human figure, in part by a rivalry of the young by the not young, and in part by the spur of fashion and individual rivalry among women themselves. On the other hand, there does not seem to be any strong provocation to tight lacing, as well-proportioned figures do not depend on the relative circumference of the waist, but on the relative length of the two divisions of the body, tight lacing when this does not exist in short persons serving rather to emphasize the defect than to correct it by throwing the point of division too low down; nor is there an evidence that men admire small waists as a sexual character; and as no permanent change in the figure has resulted after many generations of tight lacings, it is probable that it is practised by only a very small section of womankind, but that, unfortunately, the most intelligent and influential."

PICKING OUT HER COFFIN. The Strange Conduct of a Baltimore Girl is

an Undertaker's Shop. From the Baltimore American. A handsome young lady, about 25 years of age, who lives in the northwestern section of the city, yesterday morning walked into the undertaking establishment of Messrs. Evans & undertaking establishment of Messrs. Evans & Spence, corner of Baltimore and Exeterstreets, and was met by Mr. Spence. She was handsomely attired in a dark dress and bodice. Her conversation was particularly bright and flowing. The lady, after being offered a seat, stated that she desired to make arrangements for the burial of a lady friend who was not yet dead, but who was expected to die. She finally said it was her twin sister. A catalogue was shown her, but none seemed to please her. She finally asked to be allowed to see some samples, and was accommodated. During the conversation she said: "How would you like to bury me?"
"You are not dead," remarked Mr. Spence, with surprise.

with surprise.
"Yes, I am: but you see I can taik. The doc-

"You are not dead," romarked Mr. Spence, with surprise.

"Yes, I am; but you see I can taik. The doctors can do nothing for me, and I have been thinking of this thing in a serious way for several months." She finally requested to be measured. She measured five feet six and a half inches, or at least would take that size casket. While walking around she said she was determined to be placed in a casket and buried. Her family has a private lot in one of the prominent cometeries, but she did not care to be buried with any ceremony, and more particularly desired a private interment, with no one as a witness but the undertaker and his assistants. She wanted no shroud or flowers, and was willing to pay \$500 to any undertaker who would carry out her wishes.

Mr. Spence showed her a metallic casket which seemed to strike her fancy. Standing alongside of the heavy receptacle, she, in a pleasant way, said it was just her size. She finally asked Mr. Spence how long she would have to remain in the casket before death, and he told her it would take about five hours. This seemed but a moment to her, and she said she would be willing to stand the imprisonment provided a guarantee would be given that death would come in this time. The lady was anxious for the performance to take place tomorrow, and was told to return at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when the final arrangements would be made. In the mean time Mr. Spence informed a policeman, who was on hand to see if he could recognize her. She came as promised, and again expressed a strong desire to fulfil her part of the contract. Furthermore, she offered \$150, then \$200. She also said she had offered an undertaker in New York \$200 to do the job.

The officer recognize her. She came as promised and undertaker in New York \$200 to do the job.

The officer recognize her, she came as promised and office of second second the would write to her resident of fast Baltimore street, and seemed to think she was demented. Mr. Evans stated that he did not notice anything strange about the

"Masulm; or, the Night Owl." to morrow night at the academy with gorgeousness in respect to scenery and contumes, and much elaboration in mechanical effects. "Masulm" was first produced in America Aug. 1, the senith of their fame as pantomimists and dancers, had been at Niblo's since June 1 of that year performing four times a week, the other nights being devoted to the drama by the Niblo stock, then under the direction of William Chippendale, who died in England only three days ago. "Maxulm" had long been in the Ravels' repertory in the Old World. Jerome Ravel had put it repertory in the Old World. Jeroms Ravel had put it together, and he. Antoine, Francois, and Mrs. Jerome Ravel were in the first American performance of it. It ran about two months at Niblo's. About 1865 Barnum revived it fully The present reproduction is under Imre Kiraify's direction. The Kiraifys are, as nearly securing, as he stoutly insists, the authority of Jerome Haves, the only survivor, to do all the old-time panto-mime spectacies. Kiraify brings his big troupe over from Philadelphia to-morrow. They have been in that city the past fortnight, playing to good audiences at the Academy. Their New York engagement is for eight or nine weeks. A trick elephant, some clever vaudeville performers, Tom Dare among them, and two or three Franch importations of denorer clewers and so on will French importations of dancers, clowns, and so on, will be among the extraneous features. Nothing is said of the dramatic portion of the show, and that is likely to be of trifling consequence anyhow.

Manager Abbey of Wallack's has been saying that he matines trial it was acted at the Madison Square last season. The occasion was one of charity, and so there was a feeling of kindliness toward the appealing authoress and it happened that the company of volunteers were admirably suited to the roles, so that the perormance itself was particularly agreeable; but Top poses," and that "its feeble motive was so involved in talk that the audience could not become interested." It will be continued this week at Wallack's, where the costumes of Miss Coghian and Mrs. Abbey are an exhi-bition of fashionable dress worth, in feminine estimation, the cost of admission. Careful and equally libin it W. T. Lovell. another English actor, will make his American bow, and Minnie Conway (Mrs. Osmond Tearle) her first appearance with the Wallack company The translation is by Clinton Stuart, Goatcher with paint new scenery. Rose Coghlan and Florence Gerard Abbey will be in the cast.

Minstrelsy at Dockstader's has continuously handsom audiences, who are immensely diverted by the joility and never oftended. Lew Dockstader has refined his performances, but nowhere near to the point of inanity. clude ballad singers, whose first-part concerts are delightful. The programme for this week retains the New Year successes—the parody on Booth and Barrett and the "Romance of the Brooklyn Bridge." A new satire is called "Anthony Comstock vs. Art." The field of fun rich here. Reiger and Jose continue as the chief singers, and Haverly and Rankin as comedians. Dock-stader will have some new things to say and sing. He was off the end occasionally last week, and Burt Haverly replaced him acceptably.

"A Double Life." the drama at Poole's this week, has been seen in the city on the east side, where its inci-dents did not fail to thrill responsive audiences. Wil-liam Cattell was starring in it among the minor circuits several seasons ago. Originally it was called "Micaliz; or, A Double Life," and was translated from a foreign ought to have a week of prosperity at popular prices.

"The Sunny South" will be Cromwell's theme at the Grand to-night. He will talk entertainingly and illustrate his subject in entire good taste.

The only thing that interrupts the run of "The Cor-sair" at the Bijou is an occasional marriage of some pretty chorister. An event like this is enjoyable alike to the public and to the professional associates of the marrying one: besides, it incidentally assists in keeping "The Corsair" talked about. Nobody in power at the Bijou has anything to say about a change of bill, and all the signs point to a good span of life for the burlesque.

In about three weeks Daly's company will appear in an elaborate revival of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," for which Hoyt has painted scenery, and Paris costumers have provided dresses. Meanwhile "The Ratirond of Love" continues to draw good-sized audiences Shakespeare's comedy will probably run until April 14 the close of Daly's regular season, and then there will be

The engagement of the McNish, Johnson & Slavin minstrel troupe at the Fourteenth Street this week will pos-sess uncommon interest; first, because it will be the last It is a pity that this organization cannot hold together.
The three proprietors are clever men in their way, and
Johnson is one of the most versatile of end men. Mc. as a star, of jolly little Frank Daniela, whom The Sta has had occasion to characterize as one of the best eccentric comedians on the American stage. His play, "Little Puck," which will be new here, is not only Venus," by the same author. The latter work has provided material for no fewer than four farce-comedies. Rosina Vokes played one form of it, and another was successful in musical garb. Modjeska is a coming star at the Fourteenth Street, and it is likely that while in the city she will be supported by Eben Plympton.

This is Richard Mansfield's last week at the Fifth Ave-nue. "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" is continued. The musical event of the season at this theatre will come to pass a week from to-morrow night, when Zelie De Lusan. Manager Foster's "miniature Patti" will introduce her-self to New York with the Boston Ideals. After that engagement we will have three weeks of Robert B. Mar tell in "Monbara" commencing March 12.

"Jim, the Penman" is at the Grand Opera House this week. It is the second visit or Manager Fainer's com-pany to that West-side combination house. A return like this may be accepted as sure proof of the extensive drawing power of the play. Next week Kate Claxton will be at the Grand, and probaby she will try "The Pointsman," an English melodrama, while there.

The Battle of Gettysburg is open from 9 in the morning until 11 at night, and during those hours a great many people visit the comfortable structure in Fourth avenue at Nineteenth street. The theatrical manager who predicted a few years ago that the era of war pain ings would be short were far astray in their calculations They hoped so, obviously, but the age of permanent panoramas appears to have only begun. Few of the worthy exhibits of this sort seen here or in other cities have failed to make money, and that means the thea-tres have not gained thereby. An up-town manager said: "Nowadays I dread most these two things, the benefit and panorama. I am frequently asked to con-tribute my theatre for benefit purposes. I would rather pay a hundred dollars cash out of my own pocket; but it is not always possible to refuse solicitation when it is so urgent. My patrons, I have come to think, put aside for annaements each week or month, or year, certain amount of money, of which my theatre will get certain amount or money, or which my theatre will get a certain proportion. A benefit at my house, with extraordinary attractions, will, in nine cases out of ten, divert from my coffers money that would otherwise have come to me. So with the panorama. It is one of the things that must be seen by people who want to be well informed on current amusements, and while, strictly speaking, it does not come within the definition of the tricks wat the public who aread the money for it. of theatricals, yet the public who spend the money for it the panoramas we have had so far have been good, and well worth the money asked at the door."

Recently the Sunday attendance at the Eden Musee has been large, and this is saying a great deal, for the place is always pretty well filled on the Sabbath. The new Hungarian orchestra give afternoon and evening ncerts, and there is always something new in wax

"Pete," at Harrigan's has justified Manager Martin Hanley's original faith in it. He can discount, with un-erring accuracy, the success or failure of a new Harrigan piece on the first night, and yet not see the stage at all during the performance. His method is unique. He holds a reception in his private office on every first night and during the course of the play many men night, and during the course of the play many men about town and a swarm of Harrigan's political friends drop in to see him. He solicits an honest opinion from everybody, and accepts the preponderance of critical thought as the true gauge of the new piece's worth.

"The Wife" is nearing the end of its run at the fashfrom the French, are so well rehearsed that either coul succeed the present play at a fortnight's notice. But it is likely that "The Wife" will last a few weeks longer. The dates for Sydney Woollett's readings at the Madi-

son Square are the afternoons of Mondays, Jan. 14, 23, and 30, Feb. 6, 13, and 20. Largely from Tennyson. Charles Cogulan is supervising the rehearsals of "ifeart of Hearts" which will succeed "Eistue" at the Madison Square very soon. Manager Palmer's plans mention "a new French play," which is said to be a version of "A Man of Success." by Octave Fauillet Originally this was put into English by Alfred Ayres, and acted in San Francisco. Afterward it was seen here at

iniscent talk will be excited by the revival of and Arthur Wallack.

> "A Run of Luck " is doing weil at Niblo's. May Mer rick, a pretty little girl, has attracted admiring atten-tion in it. She comes of a well-known Southern family, and is a pupil of Rachel Noah, the mother of joily little Ross France, the soubrette. Miss Merrick has been on the professional stage a matter of only four months, but had gmatter experience prior to that time. Eugene Tompkins, who is the backer of "A Run of Luck," is Tompkins, who is the backer of "A Run of Luck," is represented with the company by Frank C. Griffith, a bright young man who used to act juvenile rôles nicely a few years ago under the stage name of Frank Carlos Griffith said yesterday: "I'm Sun has alluded to this play as a "sporting drama." I think there is a mistaken idea as to what is meant by that term. In England the grasp it better. Here those who haven't seen the piece might be led to think it another 'moral' drama of 'The Three Fast Men' type. Of course it isn't anything of the sort. A horse and some hounds are used in it, but the scenes arouse enthusiasm without the aid of the ani-mals, and the play doesn't depend for its interest upon

The number of forgotten dramatic failures requisit The number of forgotten dramatic ratures requisite for the evolution of the remembered successes is not realized; but they are astonishingly recalled by a perusal of the Cifpper Annual, where to a great quantity of stage history is added a complete record for 1897. The hits remain in sight, while the misses go out of view except remain in sight, while the misses go out of view except in these annals and in certain cash accounts. This yearly incidental book of the Cityper's is high authority, like the solid old journal itself, with the theatrical profession. There is hardly a theatre manager's office in the land where a file does not hang for reference, because it follows the movement of every travelling company, and gives the news of every show venture. Moreover, and particularly, it is exactly fair and honest in its editorial conduct, indulging in no bushwhacking habits or ques The electrical demonstration at Koster & Bial's has

attracted attention from experis as well as the genera public. It is continued this week. At to-night's concer Laura Lee, an old favorite at this place, will make he reappearance, and she will also sing all the week. John son, the mesmeriat: Pitrot, the comedian and mimic and Pioner's Tyrolese warblers are other people on the

Possart continues at the Thalis.

The circus party fever is on the increase at Robbins's show at the American Institute building. The group seem to grow larger and come oftener every night. To morrow Robbins will errengthen the entertainme which is already as good as could be saked. He will add the contortionist, Harbeck: the Lenton brothers, acro bats; Miss King, a club swinger: Harry Mack, and three or four more performers. In a fortnight or so he will put a star card out for Ira A. Paine, the crack shot, and his handsome wife. Paine's appearance will very likely renew the controversy between him and Bennett th Boston shooter, as to their respective records. Mrs Paine is almost as handy with ride and pistol as her hus band. Business is steadily increasing at Robbins's show and the rival circus managers who expected a failure are amazed at the young manager's success. The fam of the venture is travelling far. Robbins says he get over 100 applications a day from performers who wan to work for him.

Hedwig Niemann-Raabe's second and final week the Star will bring her forth Monday and Tuesday Dorn in the German play of that name, translated fro Sardou's "Dora"—or "Diplomacy" as the English stage knows it. Wednesday and Thursday she will produce Richard Voss's "Alexandra" for the first time in America and to close her engagementshe will play "Andrea, which is probably one of Sardou's works. "Alexandra use, but he seems to have given it up. Fran Nieman Ranbe has made many English admirers already, and is a pity that the Star hasn't been filled as it ought t have been. The supporting company includes severe excellent actors. Kober in particular revealing comed talent of the highest order. Next week W. A. Mestaye: will introduce "Check 44" to the city. It is "Toboggan ing "revised. He concocted both, and has been on the road all the season.

Tony Pastor's fresh bill names about every class of d version that the vaudevilles offer. He has a troupe o trained monkeys: Herr Grais, a juggler; the La Ros-Brothers, tumblers: Lou Sandford, singer, and daugh ter-in-law of Aunt Louise Eldridge, by the way: Durker and Drew, frish comedians and dancers; Smith and Carl in "Autographs;" Campbell's tableaux, and a number of others; besides Manager Pastor himself with a new budget of timely carols.

J. K. Emmet's familiar "Fritz " will be a fetching bi at the People's this and next week. Emmet has been here once before this season, and this will be his last trip, so that he is likely to play to full houses at the People's. Next spring he contemplates an extensive European tour, and possibly he may not be in America again for a couple of seasons. In three or four weeks Maggie Mitchell is going to spend a week at Miner's eas "Fanchon" this season. John P. Smith, an old time manager and theatrical

at the Star to-night. A miscellaneous entertainmen has been arranged, with some good volunteers.

N. S. Wood, once a "boy tragedian," and now a ve robust melodramatic actor, will be the starter at Ja-cobe's Third Avenue this week. His play, "The Waifs "Jack Harkaway." "The Boy Scout.", and dramas of a similar stirring nature, appears to have been discarded. It is not generally known that, working in his quiet way, Wood has amassed a fortune. Next week, the Third Avenue will have Wallack's "Cattle King" troupe, recently at the Windsor.

Mr. and Mrs. George S. Enight return to the city to morrow to open a week's engagement at the Windsor They will play "Rudolph" the first haif of the week and revive their merry skit, "Over the Garden Wall," to close their engagement. After that they will rest for a time. It is no secret that the road tour of "Rudolph disappointed Knight. The piece had a hearty-city re-ception, and that makes its provincial failure one of those strange things that puzzle the best theatrics judges. Next week the Hanlons give the "Voyage e Suisse" at the Windsor, and after that there will be an event of considerable importance in the return to the city stage of Jeffreys Lewis, formerly a leading actres at Wallack's, and latterly a star.

Nobody doubts that until Easter, Robson and Cran delighted audiences.

There isn't a happier set of gallery gods in town that the steady frequenters of the Standard's upper tier since the big chandeller that was built into the ceiling has been taken down leaving the range of vision up nterrupted. Thus the contest for centre seats in the have never been filled regularly until " Paul Kauvar: o Anarchy" began its present run. The play is certain; attracting large audiences. One of the best proofs of it popular strength is found in the number of first nighter who have gone to see the piece again. Such men abo town as John Draper have been seen to return more than once, generally with a new party of friends each time. Some of them say they will keep on going every week as long as that marvelously nervous red cappe mob holds the boards.

Nelse Seymour has made his debut as a spiritualis entertainer. His last previous appearances were as a negro minstrel, back in the time of Dan Bryant and San Sharpley. Dead? Oh, yes. But he is the principal per former in Mrs. Cadwell's seances, at 1.327 Broadway She introduces him as a genuine materialization of hi spirit, and who would contradict a lady ! Mrs. Cad well's exhibitions have nothing else that is novel. The consist of the usual cabinet in a darkened room, wher the visitors alt in a semicircle with hands joined, and various spooks appear. The skeptical theory, of course, is that the medium and one or two confederates wear costomes and masks for these apparitions, but the majority of the witnesses accept the manifestations a both true and good. Nelse Seymour, whose lank gro tesqueness and lingual oddities made him comical in life, is not joylal in his materialization at the Cadwel scances. Deep is his base voice, and still deeper, quit unfathomable, is his exposition of spiritual doctrine He struts out from the cabinet into the middle of the room, enveloped in something black like a cose coat, and there he strikes an attitude of dignit with arms folded and head held high. He delivers fiv minute sermons on the life beyond the grave, but make small revelation. He generalizes. Nevertheless he ar nounces that he will answer all questions which the vitor may choose to put to him. Comedian William J. Plo ence was one of Mrs. Cadwell's half-dollar contributor

"So you are really Nelse Seymour " said Florence.
"I am indeed Nelse Seymour," was the reply. "Do you recognize me f"
"I seem to remember you indistinctly, but I am unab

to recall your name or your identity."
"Make an effort, Nelse. Can't you remember, for in stance, the dinner we had with Lee, at Deimonico's ?"
"No, I can't remember it."
"Then you are a fraud."

Nelse retreated to the cabinet under this direct insul and the medium could not conx him out again. The din-ner to which Florence referred, and it is historical in the annals of New York fun, was one given by a party of practical jokers to a plaid suited, broad accented Eng ishman named Lee, who was the husband of Adelaids Neilson during one of her teurs in this country. Nei Seymour, Dan Bryant. Edward Sothern, William Piorence, and several club men invited Lee to a Del-monice blow out. After Lee had become fuddled with champagne, they raised a bogus row, drawing knives and revoivers, and enacted the widest sort of a scrim-mage. Lee fied from what he believed was a genuine wild Western meles and did not know until next day what a fool thay had made of him.

the Union Square in Palmer's time. Another play in the Palmer repertory that may find representation this season is "Remorea," the joint work of Charles A. Byrne ... Will you inform me from what poem these Will you inform me from what poem these Twas on the banks of Rapidan, From Richmond to Antistam."

We don't know. We do not find the poem in Putnam's "Record of the Rebellion." Can any of our reader

place is?

How can I get two weeks' pay from the owner! He stopped the building without paying the men. M. M. Begin suit in a civil court. If he is besten he'll have

begin suit in a civil court. If he is beaten as it have to pay all the costs.

The lines whose authorship was asked for, "Alas for Tully's voice and Virgil's lay." are to be found in By-ron's "Childe Harold, "canto Iv, stanza 82. F. A. D. Father of son and mother of daughter were married, as were son and daughter; what relation exists between the issue of both marriages? J. E. M. The children of the marriage of the parents will be uncles and aunts to the issue of the young people's mar-riage. They will be half brothers and sisters to each of

I cannot obtain the address of a friend employed in the House of Representatives; in whose care shall ad-dress a letter to him? Address him "Care of the Doorkeeper, House of Rep-

resentatives, Washington, D. C."

A. G. Brown.—Your physician can answer your question better than we can; what is one man's meat is another man's poison.

My little girl's hair, which was a golden brown is turning darker every day. Can you tell me of anything to keep it a light shade?

T. W. K.

Nothing; let it grow darker. You don't say how old your little girl is, but we presume she is pretty young Well, most babies are born into this world much lighter as regards the coloring of their hair and skin than they go out of the world. Take comfort; other mothers have

"been there" before you.

1. Please inform me how to procure information regarding money left in some savings bank by a deceased relative, dead a number of years. Would a letter sent to the President of each savings bank be answered? 2. How long would it take me to learn, practising one hour a day, to become a good enough writer to fill a clerkship in a city department, being qualified in other respects.

J. P. C. 1. If you wrote to the cashiers of the banks in one of

which you think the money might be, enclosing a stamp in each letter, you probably would learn. 2. It will take you just ten hours—that is, if the good handwriting you aim at shall have become natural to you in ten hours. Can any chess lover tell me how the so-called chess automaton now on exhibition in this city is operated? II. B. M. We can. A live man, small, hollow-chested, sits inside

the figure. The figure is seated on a box; the exhibitor opens doors in the box, and the spectator looks through between the man's legs. A door in the side of the chest of the figure is opened, and the spectator looks just in front of the chest of the man inside. The concealed operator learned some of his moves from various prom inent chess players in town.

To decide a bet, please say where the great Graphic balloon descended.

J. A. V.

balloon descended.

Messra, Donaldson and Ford, two of the balloon's pass dengers, jumped from it and landed on the farm of Mr. Charles Lewis in North Canaan, Lichfield county. Con-Mr. Lunt, the other passenger, got away from the ba is in the extreme northwest corner of the State.

Flease tell me the name of the standard book on eti

We don't know that there is a standard book on the subject. Mrs. John Sherwood's "Manners and So-Usages" is probaby as much of a standard as any. Is the Postmaster of this city a salaried officer? the Sheriff, County Clerk, and Register salaried office.

The Postmaster is a salaried Government officer : he the doings of his deputies, and it would not be fair to pay him even a large salary, and hold him responsible. The County Clerk rets a salary of \$15,000 a year, and the Register one of \$12,000. Samuel E—We appreciate your confidence in our abil-

ity to help you where the doctors have failed, but we sorrowfully confess it is not well founded. Ask your doctors the same question you have asked us. Please give the proper pronunciation of the wor decollete; also the origin and pronunciation of Montpelier." W. J. J. Decollets is pronounced daykoletay; Montpeller, is English, is pronounced Montpelyer. Montpeller, a town in France, is pronounced Mont-pel-leasy. The origin of the French name is the Latin Mons Persulanus;

French, but why a town in Vermont should be named

after a French town we do not know. What is the largest city in the United States in area a What are the five largest in the United State in area and the five largest in the world?

The statutory area of New Orleans is 150 square miles: that of Philadelphia is 129 square miles. New Orleans occupies about forty square miles, Philadelphia over a hundred. So probably justice will be done by holding that Philadelphia is the largest city in the United States n point of area. As to the five cities of the United Chicago fourth, with 36, and Brooklyn fifth, with twen ty five square miles. The five cities of the world cover ing the greatest area would seem to be Philadelphia 129; London, 118; New York, 41; New Orleans, 40; Chi cago, 36 square intles. Paris covers only about 30 squar

miles.

Please state the authorship and origin, if possible, of
the following sentences: "All is fair in love and war,"
and "Eternal vigilence is the price of liberty."

CONSTANT READER.

The authors of both these proverbial expression unknown. They are like Topsy; they growed. G. A. E.—We answer your question about once nonth. A son of American parents, born abroad,

Does a receipt for a subscription to a magazina, "fron
January, 1888, to December, 1888," include the Decem
ber number, in a legal point of view?

R. G. D. the parties would be considered as of more cons than the actual writing, and that if it could be shown

the subscriber would get it.

Did not the citizens of Washington, D. C., at one time elect their own Mayor and Council, and is not the present Commission which regulates municipal affairs a Republican device, originated to give partians jobs by destroying home rule in that city?

The citizens of Washington at one time did elect their

own Mayor and Council; that is, they voted for the nominees set up by Boas Shoppard and his ring. The municipal Government was aboliahed to put a stop to the great plundering carried on by the Washington ring, and the movement was not political in its nature. Please tell me what regiments left Tarrytown, N. Y., or the late war, and the names of the Colonela. R. M. P.

We think that there were no Tarrytown regiments. There may have been some Tarrytown companies, and there probably were; but we do not know the names of

their officers.

Wittiam M-yenberg.—Use good kerosene oil in your lan tern: perhaps you will have to get a larger lamp. You lantern must be moved nearer to or further from the sheet until the pictures come into focus—until they show clearly. Don't say that we have "choaked" you off. learly. Both say, the first american to re-ceive celebrity in Eugland as a man of letters. A de-bate followed, the "coos" claiming that Franklin ca-served this distinction. Will you kindly aid us in deed-ing?

ing?

Baras-ati Charagog.

Franklin obtained his distinction rather as a politician and philosopher than as a man of letters. According to the latest authority, the Encyclopædia Britannica, Irving was the first American man of letters to win renown that work that wo England, and the article on Irving in that work

written by an unprejudiced American.

J. P. P.—We do not know the law on the subject, but we think that the bank you ask about is long since closed up, and that the banknote is worthless except as a curi-osity. You might write either to the First, or to the Citi-zens' National Bank at Warren, Pa., and ask about the note: it is possible that one of those banks succeeded the bank whose note you hold. E. C. R.—The Great Eastern came to this port by way

of Sandy Hook.

Which is the larger, Newark or Jersey City? R. M. Jersey City; according to the census of 1885 it had 153,513 inhabitants while Newark had 152,098. Blackhurst—The bridgeroom should wear a dress suit during the wedding and the reception, and then should

change to a travelling suit

Theodore 4.—We do not know who the receiver is. Find out, stir around, if you want your money. Go down t the old office, consult a lawyer.

Please tell me if the Eighty-eighth Connaught Rangers ook a prominent part in the battle of Waterloo. D. H. took a prominent part in the battle of Waterloo. D. H. According to Greasy, "Decisive Battles of the World," the Eighty-eighth Connaught Rangers did not take a prominent part in the battle of Waterloo. That they did not, was owing, of course, solely to the fact that they were not at the battle of Waterloo.

were not at the battle of waterion.

1. Did Strongbow ever conquer or gain saccendancy in freiand? 2 How many followers had he when he landed in freiand? 3. What country has the most skaters and oses facilities for skating? 4. Did the Dutch ever have saccendancy over the seas? Post OFFICE.

1. No; he never did more than make himself generally. obnoxious to the Irish people. He was recalled from Ire-land very soon after he got there by Henry II. 2 We don't know how many followers he had; it could not have been very many. 3. The northwestern countries of Europe offer the best facilities for skating, and probably the proportion of skaters to the total population is greater there than elsewhere; but we think that there are doubtless as many skaters in the United States as in any other country. 4. No. Van Tromp did fasten a broom to his masthead to show that he had swept the English from

masineed to show that he had swept the English from the seas; but his boast was answered in June. 1803, after it had been published only six months, by a battle in which Van Tromp himself was killed.

If a person travel around the earth from east to west he finds himself a day behind in the day of the week, where does he first find this to be the case and why is the week. He first finds this to be the case and why is the himself at the case when he gets back to his starting point after going around the world. The his starting point after going around the world. The remon design the revolution of the earth. All points

west of the starting point are reached by the sun at an hour, by the time of the starting point, later the farther west they are. The difference of time is one hour for every 16 degrees of longitude. If the traveller could "ride with the sun" he could go around the world in twenty-four hours, without losing any time. But he can not ride with the sun, and at each place west of the tarting point he finds himself inter by four minutes for

every degree of longitude by which the place is west of that point. So when he arrives at the starting point after circumnavigating the world, he has travelled west-ward just 350 degrees, his watch being put back four minutes for each degree in order that it may keep the time of the places he visits. So when he gets to a point 360 degrees west of his starting point, his time is just twenty-four hours behind that of the starting point. Persons going around the world from west to east gain four minutes for each deworld from west to east gain four minutes for each de-gree travelled, so that when they have gone about the earth they are twenty-four hours ahead of the time of their starting point. It is on this fact that Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days" is founded. A large bet is made that the hero cannot go around the world in eighty days. He tries to do so, but reaches London just for minute too late. He takes the matter philosophi ave minutes too late. He takes the matter philosophi cally; but the next day he finds out that he has gained a day, having won his bet with a day to spare. He ap-pears at the appointed spot at the appointed time and wins the bet and a bride.

wins the bet and a bride.

When there are several different offices to be filled at an election can a voter cast a ballet for a candidate for each office at various times during the day, or is his first appearance at the polls his last opportunity? A Vorks.

We've answered this question before. He must vote for all his candidates at once, if he hopes to vote for all. His name is on the registers only once, and when it has been checked off once it cannot be checked off a second or third time.

Molbourne, which is the first in importance of all the British colonial seaports.

E. Wellmann.—Yes, if the present is not such as to

lay her under any heavy obligation.

If a man dies without leaving a will, leaving a wife and child, to whom does his property go?

J. O. one-third goes to his wife, the rest is divided equally among his children.

1. Can a trades union be incorporated in the State of New York?

2. Can a trades union be incorporated in the United States?

CHARKAKER.

1. They can be incorporated in this State. 2 We W. M. M., Syracuse, N. F.-We do not know the name

of the author of the poem about which you ask.

C. B. R., Westfield, N. J.—We have endeavored to learn

Are there books by the study of which skill in debate may be acquired, and authors whose works would be inspiring to a would be There are such books. "Cushing's Manual" is one o them, Webster's "Speaker's Manual" is another. We should think that the study of books like Hill's "Rhet To what hospital shall I go to be sounded for my lungs, and on what days and hours? CONSTANT KLADER. We should think you good get your lungs sounded at any dispensary. Apply any day in the morning at the New York Dispensary, 137 Centre street; the Gouver-neur Hospital, Gouverneur slip, or the Eastern Dispen-sary at Essex Market. We must decline to answer your

To what denomination does the Rev. T. De Witt Tal mage of Brooklyn belong? To the Presbyterian.

To the Presbyterian.

L. H. R.—We presume you can get Renan's "History of the Israelites" through any first-class bookseller.

Who is the richest man in the world? 2. How many men have we in this city worth \$6,0x,0x,0x,7.

Doubtless the Vanderbilts could command within twenty-four hours more money than any other family: and perhaps Mr. Russell Sage could command in two hours more money than any other single person; and perhaps the capital of the Rothschilds is larger than that of any other family, but not so easily to be realized. 2. The Vanderbilts, Jay Gould, Russell Sage, the Astors, the Goelets, D. O. Mills, C. P. Huntington, Sidney Dillon, and many others.

and many others.

Can you give me any information about R. D. Blackmore, biographical and personal?

Richard Doddridge Blackmore is the son of the Rev. John Blackmore, and great-great-grandson of Dr. Dodd-ridge. He was born at Longworth, Berks, in 1825, and graduated at Oxford in 1847. He was called to the bar in 1852, and afterward practised as a conveyancer. His first novel was "Clara Vaughn," published in 1964. His most famous book is "Lorna Doone," published in 1869, and first appreciated by the Americans. As to his personal appearance, we can tell you nothing.

M. H.—The office of the concern you ask about is in

Was Jack Dempsey ever in the English army! P. B. No.

Would you advise a young man to read any books on mythology, and what books would you recommend?

It depends largely on the young man. Mythology cer tainly is an interesting subject for either reading or study. Smith's Classical Dictionary or Lempriere's Mythology gives Greek and Roman mythology; Norse Mythology gives that of Scandinavia, and Baring Gould's Legends of the Prophets and Patriarchs that of the Is-raelites. Edwin Arnold's poems give some of the mythology of the Hindus; and there is a book on Indias folk lore which gives that of the red men.

He cannot legally be barred out anywhere in the same number, doesn't comply with the terms on which alone he could win the bet, and consequently loses.

1. No. 2. From 9 or 10 until 1 or 2 o'clock. no; discover your own recipe and make it known as the best on earth. That's what inventors do.

Constant Reader.—You can obtain Mrs. John Sherwood's
Manners and Social Usages" from Harper & Brothers
at an expenditure of \$1.02—\$1 for the book, two cents for the postage on the dollar. G. F. K.—We think not; a man cannot cast off a son who yet lives with him, so that he will not be responsible for that son's acts. Consult a lawer. Don't be

afraid; it won't cost you much, add you'll know what arraid; it won't cost you much, and you'll know what you can do.

Inquirer, Botton.—We believe that F. C. Phillips is an Englishman. His book was published first in England and it is not copyrighted here. This last fact is pretty strong evidence that he is not an American.

How many Chinese women are supposed to be in the United States?

A. B. C.

According to the census of 1890, there were 4,783 Chi nese women in the United States. Your supposition a to the number here at present is doubtless as good as that of any one else who knows no more than you do

about the matter.

Is this sentence correct: "The small dimensions of the room is a noticeable feature?" N. W. D.

No. Dimensions is the plural of dimension, and re-

No. Dimensions is the plural of dimension, and requires a plural verb.

1. What is the proper pronunciation of the word "Glaour!" 2. A friend the other evening asserted that Abraham Incolon, the day before his intended marriage, was deemed insane and was taken to an asylum in Kentucky, where he remained for two years. Have you any authentic record of that fact! 3. Sait water oysiers as you doubtless know, are taken to fresh water to "drink" before being put on the market. A Jersey oysterman told me a certain lot, was ready for the market, as they've been drinked. I've puzzled my brain a long time trying to find out what he should have said. Can you tell me? 4. Is the dealer in poker required to say at any time how many cards he drew?

1. Webster says jo-oor; Stormonth, the most recent

at any time how many cards he drew?

1. Webster says jo-oor; Stormonth, the most recent
English lexicographer, says jowr, or ge-owr. We incline
toward the latter.

2. Your friend is all wrong.

3. If
you admit the existence of a verb "to drink," meaning to put oysters in fresh water, a technical word in the profession of oyster-fishing, the past participle "drinked" is correct; and we are inclined to think that an oysterman in this free land can invent words, so long as he injures only her Majesty's English, and harms no person. 4. The dealer is obliged to answer only when the question is asked before the questioner has raised

his hand or made a bet.

Please tell us if the star which shines so brightly in
the eastern sky at 6 Octock in the morning is the star of
Bettilehem, the approach of which was predicted for
this year. Any information in regard to it may be of
interest to your readers.

The star you see is the planet Venus, which last sum-

mer shore with equal splendor' in the west after sunset. It has since passed between the earth and the sun, and, having thus got to the west of the sun, now rises ahead of the god of day. There is no "Biar of Bethlehem."

The pretended discovery of such a star, announced last summer, was a pure invention. A supposed periodical star, which suddenly shops out in the constellation of Casslopela in 1572, has been sometimes spoken of as the "Star of Bethlehem." because timaginary period of something over three hundred years has been assigned to it, and such a period would would have made it vis ible about the time of the birth of Christ. If it had such a period it ought to be visible again now.

The Old Man Ahead. "No. Mr. Sampson-George, doar," said the

girl, "I can never, never be your wife, but I will always be a --- " "Ah. darling." interposed young Mr. Sampson, an his heart was throbbing the buttons off his new silk vest, "why do you address me in such an endearing term if it can never, never be?" Because, George, dear," and again the name fell from her lips like music in the night, "I'm to be a mother to you in the spring. Your father—" But the son-in-law had fied.

A Numerical Misunderstanding. Mormon Elder (to shoe dealer)-I want to get pair of shoes for my wife. Shoe Dealer-Yea sir. What number, please? Mormon Elder—Seventeen.
Since Dealer—Seventeen! Great Brigham, sir, we haven't shoes that israe! Great Brigham of the number of the shoe, sir, but of the number of the wife.

Big and Little Humanity. Old Bachelor (looking at new baby)—Er-rather small and puny. Jun ? Froud Father—teem rather. Old Bachelor (encouragingty)—Still, Jim, if I were in your place? would try and raise it.

A Sensitive Nature. Very Sick Husband (to weeping wife)—It may come out all right yet, my dear; so don't cry, Weeping Wife—I can't help it, John. You know how casily I am moved to tears. MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

Notwithstanding rumors and the hopes of the Ret-tontestms, grand opera in German will be given through-cut next season at the Metropolitan. Herr Seidl, ton, will be the conductor—or at least one of the conductors —but there will be many changes in the company; so many, indeed, that the process of reorganization is likely to bear a pretty close resemblance to the proceed-ing by which the Frenchman renovated his kuife; i. s. by supplying it first with a new blade and then with a new handle. Some of the projected changes were to have been made this winter, and it is now seen that they would have been judicious. There is an abundance of good singers left in Germany, and it is to their engagement that Mr. Stanton will have to look with interest to insure the brilliancy of the season of 1888-88. The young manager's ambition and industry, as exemplified during the last three years, have pretty well exhausted the repertoirs as far as attractive and popular works are concerned.

Signor Campanini and his concert company, who are now wending their way hitherward, will probably be heard in one or two concerts in this city early in Pebra-ary. Signor Campanini Intended to devote ten days to California, but success made him prolong his sojourn in San Francisco, Loz Angelea, Sacramento, San Josa, and San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Joss, and adjacent places, until close upon four weeks have passed away. He began his California campaign with four concerts in San Francisco; then he visited the regular "one night" towns: afterward he returned to San Francisco and gave four operatic performances with a local orchestra and chorus, and, finally, he revisited the cities where he had been heard in concert, and gave the inhabitants a taste of the operas applicated in the State capital. Meanwhile the New York season was not loss with to and talegrams between the tenor-impressario. sight of, and telegrams between the tenor-impresario, his general manager in New York, and the house of Ricordi in Milan, in respect to the cast of "Otello," have been flashed over the wires almost daily. The cast of "Otello" will be a surprise to the New York public. Is will be made known as soon as one or two trifling matters of detail are disposed of.

Mme. Etelka Gerster is still in town. She is sojourning with her brother, Dr. Arpad Gerster. The well-known prima donna has refused to converse on the subject of her ill success under Mr. Abbey's management, out her intimates aver that she is convinced that the un familiarity of the conductor and band provided for her New York concerts with her music and her temperament was the main cause of the unsettled physical condition that interfered with her singing on the night of her reappearance at the Metropolitan. Mine. Gerster is so positive that her old-lime power to asionish and charm has not departed that it is more than likely, according o her friends, that she will soon appeal to the public for its judgment, taking care this time that her per-formances shall not be hampered in any way.

The operatic debut of Mile, de Lussan at the Fifth Avenue Theatre is awaited with considerable interest by local music lovers. Although of French descent, the young prima donna of the Hoston Ideals is a New Yorker by birth. Many years ago her mother, then a songatress f repute, was known as a teacher in some of the oldest families. A rister of Mile, de Lussan is married to the head of the firm of Ralli & Co., one of the meet ancient and wealthy of Greek business houses in this country.

One of the most promising of recent debutantes has been engaged by Director Stauton for the remainder of the season at the Metropolitan Opera House. Miss So-phic Traubmann, who is a New Yorker by birth, was under contract to Mr. Locke, and had sung under his nanagement Chrysa in "Nero" and Venus in "Tann left the company, however, simultaneously with Mms. Fursch-Madi, her instructress, and M. Sylva, and for similar reasons. Mr. Stanton was in need of a soprane to sing the part of first Rhine-daughter in "Gotterdam-merung," and he promptly signed a contract with Miss Traubmann. When "Gotterdammerung" was first brought out at Bayreuth in 1870. Fraulein Lenmann, who had not yet climbed to the giddy height whence, as 110:de and Brinnhilde, she nowndays looks down upon her tolling sisterhood, filled the role that will be intrusted to Miss Traubmann when the final mus

The Ilma di Murska concert was an experiment that bore some kinship to that known to theatrical managers as "trying it on a dog." The experimenters were two well-known impresarios, both of whom were desirous to discover a prima donna seprano for a concert tour. It can do no harm to mention that one of them was Mr. Abbey and the other Mr. Max Strakosch. These gentle youth would be borne out by events, formed an alliance Mr. Strakosch supplying Chickering Hall, the advertise-ments, and so on, and Mr. Abbey the concert troups sur-rounding Mme. di Murska. A third party—the public— was expected to furnish the wherewithal to meet the current expenses, but failed to put in an appearance; and, as to receipts, the entertainment proved a sadden-ing exhibition of the community's brief memory of its favorites. It is some satisfaction to be able to note that Mme. di Murska's spirits have been in newise dampened by her experience, and she may be beheid in a coupe in the Park, any fine afternoon, in company with a black-haired cavaliere servense and a fox terrior, irreproach-

If ourrent reports are to be credited, Wagner's music is responsible not merely for havoc played with aingers' voices, but for at least one case of physical disability. It is understood that Herr Ferenczy, the very clever artist that until lately represented Mins. in "Siagfried."
will not appear on the stage for a long white, on account
of an injury inflicted by sustaining through a whole evening the cramped attitude imposed upon the dwarf If Herr Ferenczy's case has not been exaggerated—and it is quite well established that Wagner's music has ruined many fine voices-there would seem to be a need for a third protective society, modelled after the fashion

of Mr. Bergh's useful organi Mme. Biro de Marion, a soprano that was heard sevset of the present season, has reused to be a member of the company. Her withdrawal from its ranks is under-stood to have been involuntary, and, should a legal investigation into its cause become necessary, the privileged few that may be permitted to read the testimony will be surprised to ascertain the difference between the language used by the Venus in "Tannhauser" when the goddess is near the footlights, and the speeches made by her on retiring into the wings.

A well-known firm of planomakers in this city is now putting the action into the case of an instrument that will cost, when completed, between \$4,000 and \$5,000. The case is of hard wood, enamelled snow white and adorned with golden arabesques in raised work. Its effect is infinitely more beautiful and striking than that of Mr. Marquand's famed instrument, aithough the latter cost about eight times as much as the more inexpensive article. Fancy cases, increasing the price of a plano from \$100 upward, are growing in favor with wealthy purchasers, although practised musicians still cling to ose wood and ebonized material.

The despatch announcing the destruction by fire of the plane factory of Mine. Erard in Faris, a few days ago, was so brief that it was doubtless overlooked by most readers of Tile Sun. Yet a fire in which 1,500 Instruments were consumed was scarcely an every-day event. The house of Erard is one of the oldest in the world, and the reputation won by its harps is even greater than that enjoyed in France and southern En-rope by its planes. The founder of the house, Sebas-tien Erard, was born in 1752, and he made the first piano ever constructed in France in a workshop built or him in the chateau of the Duchess of Villerol, in of Pierre Erard, a nephew of Sebastien's, who dwells in the historical Château de la Muette at Passy, near Paris.

Maestro Carlo Bosoni, who was Mme. Christine Nilsson's first accompanist in this country, who led the bands of the principal opera houses in Spain and in Italy for many sensons, and who was most recently Mme. Marchaly accompanist in Faris, is dead. He was a composer and ianist of exceptional talent, and a most amiable and in offensive man, whose extreme modesty and timidity kept him from attaining the full measure of calebrity to which his powers fairly entitled him. The death of another artist well known on this side of the Atlantic is also to be ecorded, simultaneously with that of the Maestro Boso-il. M. Louis Jamet, who was the basso during the first vilseon opera season in this country, passed away a fort night ago. Signor Hossoni was about 60 and M. Jamet 55.

While the Tribunal de la Seine was taking testimony as to M. Carvaiho's responsibility in re. the recent disaster at the Opera Comique, M. Gouned was put upon the stand. He said, in answer to sundry questions: "I can only speak of M. Carvalho as of an artist. Considered as a theatrical manager, I cannot say much about him. Composers are like the makers of sweets they write music, but consume but little. | Laughter. | When a man has set down music all day long at home he does not like to start out of evenings and hear his confreres' pro-ductions. (More laughter.) Hence I seldom go to the theatre, and on that account know nothing of M. Car-

The Apollo Theatre, in Rome, is to be pulled down to nake way for new streets. The city is to pay the pro-

prictors of the establishment 2,000,000 lire (\$400,000). M. Guille, the diminutive tenor that accompanied Mmc. Pattl in her last year's tour, is singing in opera at the Grand Theatre in Marseilles. Mmc. Pattlis to appear in Lisbon on Thursday of this week.

Mile Luisa Lablache, who was under engagement to the Boston Ideals this season and violated her contract, is now travelling with an operatic company managed by Mr. Mapleson redictions, and devastating Great Britain and Ireland. Mife Lablache, however, would hardly be recognized from a prrusal of the bills, as she is mas-querading under the name of Medori, Signor Del Fucute a member of the same company.

Victor Nessier, the successful and opulent composer of "The Trumpeter of Sackingen," is sugaged on a new opera, the scene of which is laid in Strasburg. The readers of Il Provatore were favored, in that in-

fluential and authoritative journal with a long account of Miss Emma Juch's triumphs at Fittaburgh, Pa. & reargeantative art centre of the United States